



Key facts about litter:

- In 2003, 400 people were prosecuted in the UK for dropping litter
- Persistent littering fines can get to over £2500
- Fines are usually under £100, generally £70-£80
- The public are allowed to report a case of littering
- There around 7 million dogs in the UK, producing 1,000 tons of feces every day

Reporters Lowri and Amy

Volume 1, Issue 1

If you commit the crime should you pay the fine?

The rise of litter in our community inspired us to look into how the council issue fines to the public. We interviewed our peers and teachers and they thought the public should pay a small amount on their first offence and the amount should increase after a second offence, but we had a different opinion from a teacher that we interviewed.

She said that she thinks instead of fining them money, which may mean a lot to some people but not to others, she said that they should be made to do a week of what their offence was, if their dog fouled and they left it they should have a week of picking up dog mess. She thinks that by making people work, they will learn more than taking their money.

We also interviewed our school's P.E teacher ; he thinks that the council should fund money towards situating

bins into areas that are heavily populated with litter and not with bins. He also suggested signposting areas with the most litter and taking further measures to catch people dropping litter. Opinions from our peers say that we should be allowed to throw away fruit when we are in wilderness evidence because it helps the insects.

Dumping rubbish is a world wide problem. We finally looked into why people drop litter and we found out that it is down to laziness and also there are not enough bins available, but mostly it is because people are too lazy to walk a few meters or hold it until they get to a bin.



(Above) rubbish in the community,
(Left) litter in the river on the school premises.



Dog Fouling

We also thought that we should report on dog fouling because it is a similar issue to littering. The main reasons that people don't pick up their dog foul is because they're either too lazy to pick it up, too disgusted to or they don't want to walk around with it.

Dog fouling is a major issue because there are eggs in the dog muck that after 2-3 weeks will hatch and they can cause blindness and fits. Also it is not a pleasant thing in nature areas where families would want to have

a picnic with their families and play games on the grass that they will have to be rolling around in dog muck. Furthermore, it lets off unpleasant smells and gasses that will go into our atmosphere and thicken the blanket of gases around the earth. This could have a knock-on effect on global warming.

(Below) dog fouling sign

